

RESTRICTION

The May 9, 2006 Office Action had restricted Claims 47-229, as follows:

Species I: Claims 47-90, described as a separate embodiment in the specification, are drawn toward discovering and analyzing data, making recommendations for actions and then executing an action.

Species II: Claims 91-139 and 187-229, described as a separate embodiment in the specification, are drawn toward discovering and analyzing data, identifying conditions, alerting a user based on a condition and then executing an action. The Examiner noted that if this species was elected, there may be an issue of duplicate claims.

Species III: Claims 140-186, described as a separate embodiment in the specification, are drawn toward discovering and analyzing data, identifying conditions, alerting a user based on a condition, making recommendations for actions and then executing an action.

The Office Action required that the Applicants elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held allowable. Currently claims 1-46 are generic.

ELECTION

The Applicants elect Species III, with traverse.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement. Applicants traverse the requirement because all the pending claims are integrally related by design, operation, and effect. All groups address the method for managing a workflow process that assists users in procurement, sourcing, and decision-support for strategic sourcing.